

the  
**dietitian**

In the HOSPITALS of the  
U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

Today, more than ever before, we appreciate the importance of proper eating in the treatment of the sick. On the modern hospital scene, experts in dietetics and nutrition play prominent roles, supervising the therapeutic dietary care of patients and teaching them sound eating habits.

The Public Health Service invites qualified dietitians to consider a career in its medical care program. Assignments are interesting, offering diverse and satisfying clinical experiences that foster professional growth.

*Leonard A. Scheele*  
*Surgeon General.*

**T**HE U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE is the agency of the Federal Government concerned with safeguarding the Nation's health. Its far-reaching functions encompass treatment of the sick; research into the cause, prevention, and cure of disease; technical leadership and financial assistance to improve State and local health programs; and the dissemination of health information.

Charged with supplying the nutritional needs of patients, the dietitians in the hospitals of the Public Health Service are active members of the professional medical teams. They work closely with the physicians and dentists on research projects and on special studies and experiments with patients requiring therapeutic diet treatment. Through individual and group contacts in the wards and clinics, the dietitians advise patients on nutrition and diet with respect to their specific illnesses. The dietitians are responsible also for the service of food to all persons who take meals at the hospitals.



## **The Public Health Service Hospitals**

**T**HE HOSPITALS of the Public Health Service trace their origin to the medical care programs enabled by the Act "for the relief of sick and disabled seamen," signed by President John Adams on July 16, 1798. Today, the Service hospitals number 24, varying in size from 30 to 1,400 beds. All but three have more than 100 beds. The patients, for the most part, come from the ranks of American seamen, Coast Guard officers and enlisted men, Federal employees injured at work, officers and crew members of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, Public Health Service commissioned officers, and others designated by law.

Most of the Public Health Service hospitals are located in large cities—on the ocean and Gulf coasts, along the Mississippi River, and on the shores of the Great Lakes. Consequently, many of the hospitals are near colleges, universities, theaters, churches, athletic stadiums, and other cultural and recreational centers.

### **Location of Hospitals**

Baltimore, Md.  
Boston, Mass.

Carville, La. (lepro-  
sarium).

Chicago, Ill.	New York City:
Cleveland, Ohio.	Ellis Island (psychi- atric)
Detroit, Mich.	Manhattan Beach (tuberculosis)
Fort Stanton, N. Mex. (tuberculosis).	Staten Island
Fort Worth, Tex. (psy- chiatric).	Norfolk, Va.
Galveston, Tex.	Portland, Maine
Kirkwood, Mo.	San Francisco, Calif.
Lexington, Ky. (psychi- atric).	San Juan, P. R.
Memphis, Tenn.	Savannah, Ga.
Mobile, Ala.	Seattle, Wash.
New Orleans, La.	Vineyard Haven, Mass.

The 22 marine hospitals comprise 18 general hospitals, 2 tuberculosis sanatoria, a hospital primarily for neuropsychiatric patients, and the National Leprosarium. Two other neuropsychiatric hospitals known as U. S. Public Health Service Hospitals are especially equipped and staffed to care for persons addicted to narcotic drugs.

The Council on Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association has approved 11 of the Service hospitals for the intern training of phy-

sicians; 9 have approved dental internships; 11 are approved for residency training in the principal medical specialties. A one year dietetic internship approved by the American Dietetic Association is offered at the U. S. Marine Hospital, Staten Island, N. Y.

## **The Hospital Dietary Service**

**A**T EACH of the hospitals of the Public Health Service, the dietary branch is a professional service. The chief dietitian is the head of the branch and is accountable for its efficient administration to the medical officer in charge.

Specific responsibilities of the dietary branch include the purchase, storage, and control of food; the planning of menus—therapeutic and normal; the supervision of all food preparation and service; formulating and carrying out all of the hospital's training programs in nutrition and food service.

The chief dietitian is in frequent contact with the management service of her hospital, making recommendations regarding the selection, procurement and maintenance of all space and equipment necessary for the effective performance of the dietary branch.





## **Appointment of Dietitians To the Public Health Service**

**Q**UALIFIED dietitians may enter the U. S. Public Health Service either as commissioned officers of the Service or as civil service employees. In the latter case, the applicant is appointed from a register of eligibles established by the U. S. Civil Service Commission as a result of a competitive examination of qualifications. Examinations for appointment in the Commissioned Corps are conducted by the Public Health Service.

## **The Commissioned Corps Of the Public Health Service**

**T**HE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE is the only commissioned service of the Government in which all officers are in the medical or allied scientific fields. Commissioned officers in the Public Health Service have the comparable pay and rank of the other uniformed services. The wide scope of responsibilities discharged by Public Health Service officers requires that there be at all times a mobile group of highly trained Public Health specialists—physicians, dentists, dietitians, nurses, sanitary engineers, pharmacists, etc., who are capable of meeting the Service's needs, both

routine and extraordinary. Since the ever-increasing work of the Service necessitates more personnel, more are authorized for the Regular Corps, provisions have been made for the appointment of Reserve officers.

The highest ranking officer of the Public Health Service is the Surgeon General, appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate. He holds the same rank as the Surgeon General of the Army, which is major general.

The Deputy Surgeon General also holds the rank of major general. The Assistant Surgeons General hold the rank of either brigadier general or major general.

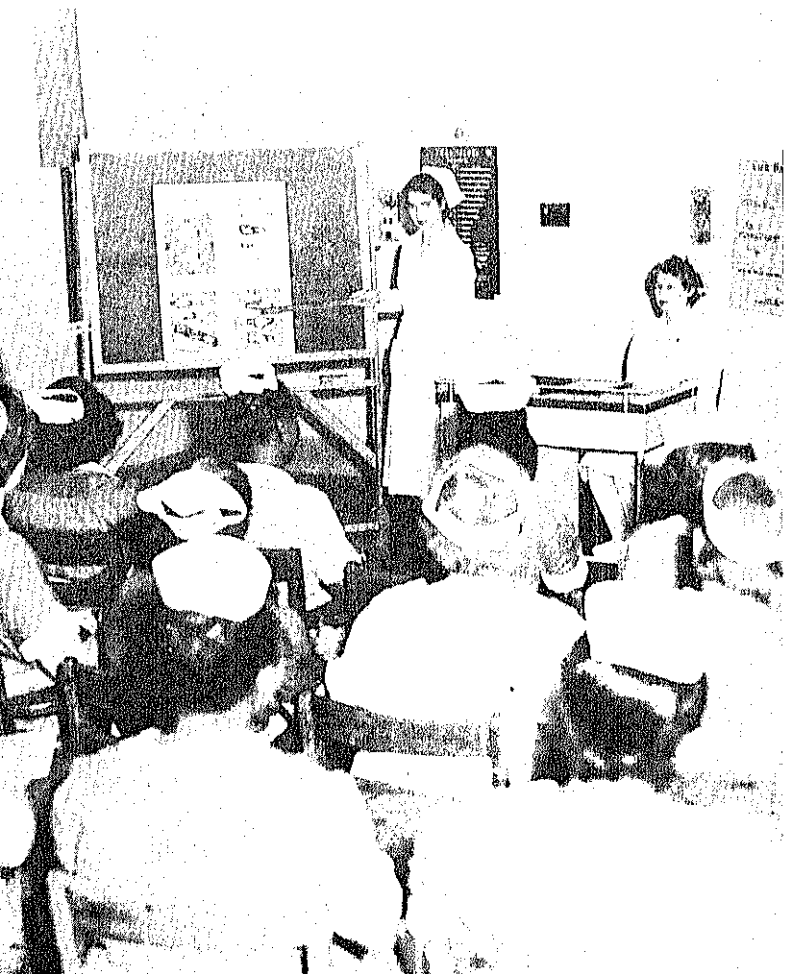
At the operating levels in dietetics, the Public Health Service grades, and similar military ranks, are as follows in ascending order:

<i>Public Health Service</i>	<i>Army</i>	<i>Navy</i>
Junior assistant dietitian	Second lieutenant	Ensign
Assistant dietitian	First lieutenant	Lieutenant
Senior assistant dietitian	Captain	Lieutenant
Dietitian officer	Major	Lieutenant
		major
Senior dietitian	Lieutenant colonel	Commander
Dietitian director	Colonel	Captain

With but few exceptions, Reserve officers have the same status, privileges, obligations and are subject to the same regulations that pertain to the Regular Corps. For example, Reserve and Regular Corps members receive medical and dental care at Service facilities without charge. Both are entitled to 30 days, leave per year and to periodic pay increases.

In addition to the basic pay of the officers' grade, allowances are granted when rental and subsistence are not furnished by the Government. All Public Health Service officers may use Army, Navy, and Marine Corps commissaries. Both categories of officers may resign at any time that is mutually agreeable to the officer and to the Service, except in times of national emergency.

The dietitian officer in the Regular Corps holds a career appointment. She is appointed by the President with the consent of the Senate upon recommendation of the Surgeon General, after having successfully passed an examination conducted by an examining board of commissioned officers. The full examination includes a review of the candidate's education, experience, physical qualifications, and the results of written and oral tests. Regular officers receive liberal retirement benefits based upon age and length of service without deduction from pay. They are entitled to the same



retirement provisions for disability as members of the other uniformed services.

The Reserve officer is appointed by the President for a term not to exceed 5 years. A Reserve officer whose commission has expired may be reappointed. Subject to the Surgeon General's approval, the Reserve Corps officer is appointed on the recommendation of a board of commissioned officers after review of her qualifications and performance. Neither a written nor an oral examination is required ordinarily. Reserve officers are subject to the provisions of the Civil Service Retirement Act and a deduction of 6 percent is made from their basic pay for this purpose.

THEIR FUNCTIONS AND IMPORTANT SOURCES

VITAMIN A

THIAMINE

RIBOFLAVIN

NICOTIN

HYDROXY

PANTOTHENIC  
ACID

VITAMIN C

VITAMIN D

VITAMIN E

VITAMIN K

# NUTRITION - GROUP-DIE INSTRUCTIO







## **Requirements for Appointment**

### **Basic qualifications**

#### **Regular Corps of Commissioned Officers**

1. United States citizenship.
2. At least 18 years of age.
3. A bachelor's degree with major in the field of dietetics (for example, nutrition or institutional management) from an accredited college or university.
4. Successfully passing written and oral examinations. The written examination covers: general chemistry, food chemistry, bacteriology, physiology, normal and advanced nutrition, diet in disease, institutional management, educational psychology, and methods of teaching.
5. Submission of a complete application which includes a physical examination report by a Public Health Service medical officer and documentary evidence of personal and professional fitness as indicated in the application forms.

#### **Reserve Corps of Commissioned Officers**

1. United States citizenship.
2. At least 18 years of age.



3. A bachelor's degree with major in the field of dietetics (for example, nutrition or institutional management) from an accredited college or university.

4. Submission of a complete application. This includes a physical examination report by a medical officer of the Public Health Service and documentary evidence of personal and professional fitness as indicated on the application forms. In some cases oral interviews are requested.

#### **Grade requirements**

Junior assistant dietitian officer.	Basic qualifications.
Assistant dietitian officer.	Basic qualifications, plus 1 year of approved internship and 2 years of experience and/or postgraduate training.
Senior assistant dietitian officer.	Basic qualifications, plus 1 year of approved internship, plus an additional 5 years of experience and/or postgraduate training.

Dietitian officer-----	Basic qualifications, 1 year of approved internship, plus 12 years of additional experience and/or postgraduate training.
Senior dietitian officer.	Promotion of career dietitians to this grade is made by selection only.

## Conditions of Employment

### Beginning annual salary

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS—REGULAR AND RESERVE <sup>1</sup>		
grade	basic pay	allowances
Junior assistant dietitian.....	\$2,565.00	\$1,224.00
Assistant dietitian.....	2,992.56	1,314.00
Senior assistant dietitian.....	3,762.00	1,404.00
Dietitian officer.....	4,617.00	1,494.00
Senior dietitian officer.....	5,472.00	1,584.00

<sup>1</sup> These figures represent the starting pay of a single officer with no dependents who has had no previous experience as a commissioned officer in the Army, Navy, or Public Health Service. Commissioned officers with dependents receive higher rental allowances.

<sup>2</sup> No allowances are provided for Civil Service employees.

### Pay Increases

Dietitians in the Commissioned Corps receive periodic increases in basic pay.

The civil service dietitian who maintains an efficiency rating of "Good" or better receives salary increases at periodic intervals depending upon the grade of her position.

	CIVIL SERVICE <sup>2</sup>	
gross	grade	salary
\$3,789.00	GS 5.....	\$3,100.00
4,306.56	GS 7.....	3,825.00
5,166.00	GS 9.....	4,600.00
6,111.00	GS 11.....	5,400.00
7,056.00	GS 12.....	6,400.00

### **Federal Income Tax Benefit**

In the case of commissioned officers, the Federal tax on salary payments received from the Public Health Service is computed on basic pay only.

### **Work Week**

The basic work week of the Public Health Service is 40 hours, but commissioned officers are subject to duty at all times.

## **Promotion**

The dietitian who is well qualified and capable may earn promotions. Her advancement is based upon her qualifications, length of service, and competence. The Public Health Service is interested in the dietitian's career and fills vacancies in higher grades by promotion, wherever possible. Promotion to the grade of senior dietitian is on the basis of selection.

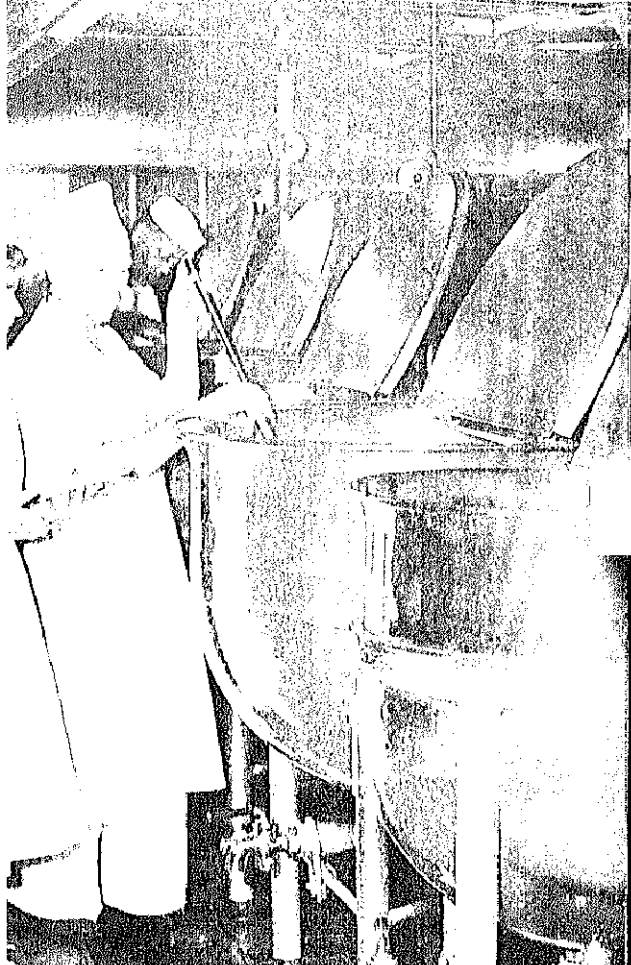
## **Leave**

Dietitians in the Commissioned Corps are allowed 30 days' leave for each full year on active duty status; this includes nonwork days which fall within a period of leave. The dietitian appointed through Civil Service is entitled to 26 days' annual leave, exclusive of non-work days.

For dietitians in the Commissioned Corps, sick leave is granted when and in the amount needed. Regulations allow 15 days' sick leave annually for civil service appointees. Unused sick leave may be accumulated. Maternity leave may be arranged for dietitians both in civil service and the Commissioned Corps.

## **Medical Care**

All dietitians in the Commissioned Corps have the privilege of full medical care and hospitalization at





Service facilities. Dietitians with civil service appointments may receive treatment for work-connected injury or illness.

### **Retirement**

Retirement benefits are provided for all dietitians in the Service. The civil service dietitian and her colleague holding a Reserve commission have 6 percent of their salary deducted for retirement. Under this system, dietitians may retire with an annuity at the age of 60 after 30 years' service, or at the age of 62 after at least 15 years of service. Earlier retirement may be arranged with reduced annuities.

The dietitian in the Regular Corps has no deduction from salary for retirement. Active duty service in the armed forces is credited toward retirement. For pay purposes, both active and inactive armed forces duty is creditable. All commissioned officers are retired at the age of 64. Provisions are made for earlier optional retirement in the senior assistant and dietitian officer ranks.

### **Quarters and Subsistence**

At many of the Public Health Service hospitals, dietitians occupy furnished rooms in the women's residence (maid service, bed linens, blankets, and towels



are supplied) and take their meals in the staff dining room. Deductions for these services are withheld from the pay of civil service personnel receiving them. Commissioned dietitians who live at the stations pay for meals at the established rate and do not receive the quarters allowance.

**For Application Blanks**  
**Fill in and Mail this Form:**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The Surgeon General,  
Public Health Service,  
FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY,  
Washington 25, D. C.

Please send me application blanks for hospital dietitians for the  
Commissioned Corps . . . Civil Service . . .  
(check the forms desired)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

